In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID device for non-contact communication with a reading device via ~~other RFID devices of an RFID system by means of~~ modulated electromagnetic signals ~~(SS), which~~ that contain at least one of data and ~~and! or~~ commands packed in data frames, the RFID device comprising: ~~in which a group of data frames contains synchronization information (Preamble, Start Delimiter) for synchronization of mutually communicating RFID devices, and another group of data frames does not contain any such synchronization information, with~~

synchronizing means configured to effect synchronization of the RFID device with the reading device responsive to receipt of a data frame containing ~~by~~ synchronizing information ~~(Preamble, Start Delimiter) contained in received data~~ from the reading device; ~~frames~~ and ~~with~~

synchronization status test means~~)~~ configured to detect whether the RFID device runs synchronously with the reading device ~~at least one other RFID device of the RFID system, from which it receives data frames,~~ and ~~in the event of not running synchronously~~ to switch on the synchronizing means responsive to detecting that the RFID device is not synchronized with the reading device,

wherein the RFID device is configured to receive multiple different types of commands as groups of data frames from the reading device, and wherein at least one of the received commands does not contain synchronizing information for effecting synchronization of the RFID device with the reading device ~~in which event the synchronizing means can preferably be switched off automatically after the synchronization has been effected~~.

2. *(Previously presented)* An RFID-device as claimed in claim 1, in which the synchronizing means are configured in such a manner that every received data frame is to be treated as a data frame containing synchronization information.

3. *(Previously presented)* An RFID device as claimed in claim 1, in which the synchronization status test means cooperate with a data frame error counter to count the

number of erroneously received data frames and in the event of exceeding of a specified error limit, to switch on the synchronizing means.

4. *(Previously presented)* An RFID device as claimed in claim 3, in which the synchronization status test means are configured to switch off the synchronizing means in the event of a correctly received data frame.

5. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID device as claimed in claim 1, in which the synchronization status test means are configured for detection of ~~the~~ synchronization start signals in the received electromagnetic signals which synchronization start signals are transmitted outside the data frame, where the synchronization status test means switch on the synchronizing means on detection of a synchronization start signal.

6. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID-device as claimed in claim 5, in which the synchronization status test means are configured to detect ~~the~~ a degree of modulation of the received electromagnetic signals and to recognize as a synchronization start signal a received electromagnetic signal whose modulation factor lies in a specified range.

7. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID device as claimed in claim 6, in which the synchronization status test means are configured to recognize as a synchronization start signal a received electromagnetic signal whose modulation factor is over 50% up to complete field [[.]] disconnection ~~(= modulation factor 100%)~~.

8. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID-device as claimed in claim 1, in which the synchronization status test means cooperate with a Watchdog- Timer to switch on the synchronizing means after the lapsing of a specified interval, during which no ~~or no~~ correct data frame could be received.

9. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID-device as claimed in claim 1, comprising synchronization status test means and two synchronizing means which can be run alternately in such a manner that one of the synchronizing means process every received data frame as a data frame containing synchronization information and try to read their

synchronization information ~~(Preamble, Start Delimiter)~~ for executing a synchronization routine, while the other synchronizing means forward every received data frame to the next data frame processing means where the operation of the two synchronization means is switched over if a synchronization routine of a synchronization unit is successful.

10. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID-device as claimed in claim 1, in which the RFID-device is configured as a ~~reading device or~~ transponder

11. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID system, comprising:

at least one reading device and at least one transponder, the reading device and the transponder ~~which are~~ configured for non-contact communication ~~by means of~~ via modulated electromagnetic signals that ~~which~~ contain at least one of data and ~~and! /or~~ commands packed in data frames, ~~in which~~

the reading device ~~is~~ configured for transmitting multiple different types of commands as ~~a~~ groups of data frames to the transponder, at least one of the commands containing ~~which contain~~ synchronization information ~~(Preamble, Start Delimiter)~~ for effecting synchronization of the reading device with the transponder and at least one of the commands not containing the ~~to transmit another group of data frames which do not contain such~~ synchronization information, ~~in which~~

the transponder including ~~has~~ synchronization means ~~which are~~ configured to effect synchronization of the transponder with the reading device responsive to receipt of a command that contains the ~~with the help of~~ synchronization information, ~~(Preamble, Start Delimiter) contained in received data frames~~ and including synchronization status test means configured for detecting whether the transponder runs synchronously with the reading device and ~~in the event of it not running synchronously~~ to switch on the synchronization means responsive to detecting that the transponder is not synchronized with the reading device ~~where the synchronization means can preferably be switched off automatically on successful synchronization~~.

12. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID system as claimed in claim 11, in which the reading device is configured to transmit inventory ~~register the inventorizing~~ commands, responsive to the inventory commands, ~~by which~~ each transponder present in an effective

area of the reading device [[,]] is configured ~~asked~~ to report to the reading device ~~to send in a data frame containing synchronization information~~.

13. *(Previously presented)* An RFID system as claimed in claim 11, in which the synchronization status test means cooperate with a data frame error counter to count the number of erroneously received data frames and in the event of exceeding of a specified error limit, to switch on the synchronizing means.

14. *(Previously presented)* An RFID system as claimed in claim 13, in which the synchronization status test means are configured to switch off the synchronizing means in the event of a correctly received data frame.

15. *(Previously presented)* An RFID system as claimed in claim 11, in which the reading device is configured to send synchronization start signals as electromagnetic signals before data frames containing synchronization information, and the synchronization status test means of the transponder are configured for detecting the synchronization start signals in the received electromagnetic signals and to switch on the synchronization means on detection of a synchronization start signal.

16. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID system as claimed in claim 15, in which the reading device is configured for sending an electromagnetic signal as a synchronization start signal, the synchronization start signal having a modulation factor ~~of which lies~~ in a specified range and the synchronization status test means are configured to detect synchronization start signals from the modulation factor of the received electromagnetic signals.

17. *(Previously presented)* An RFID system as claimed in claim 16, in which the reading device is configured for sending an electromagnetic signal as a synchronization start signal with a modulation factor of over 50% up to complete field disconnection.

18. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID system as claimed in claim 11, in which the synchronization status test means cooperate with a Watchdog-Timer to switch on the

synchronizing means after the lapsing of a specified interval, during which no ~~or no~~ correct data frame could be received.

19. *(Currently Amended)* An RFID system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the transponder further includes ~~comprising~~ synchronization status test means and two synchronizing means which can be run alternately in such a manner that one of the synchronizing means processes every received data frame as a data frame containing synchronization information and tries to read their synchronization information for executing a synchronization routine, while the other synchronizing means forwards every received data frame to the next data frame processing means where the operations of the two synchronization units are switched over if a synchronization routine of one synchronization means is successful.

20. *(Currently Amended)* An anti-collision method for determining a number of transponders in an effective area of a reading device, ~~comprising the providing of at least one reading device and a number of transponders, in which~~ the reading device communicating ~~communicates~~ with the transponders without contact via ~~by means of~~ modulated electromagnetic signals that ~~which~~ contain at least one of data and ~~and! /or~~ commands packed in data frames, the method comprising:

transmitting, by ~~in which~~ the reading device, ~~transmits~~ an inventory command as a group of data frames for determination of the transponders present in ~~it's~~ the effective area, the inventory ~~by which~~ command containing synchronization information for synchronization of the reading device with the transponders;

transmitting, by each of the transponders ~~each transponder~~ present in the effective area and responsive to the inventory command, ~~of the reading device is asked to transmit~~ a response with a unique identification number that identifies the transponder to the reading device; ~~upon which the reading device sends the Inventory command in a data frame which contains synchronization information (Preamble, Start Delimiter) for synchronization with the transponders, when the transponders synchronize with the reading device with the help of the synchronization information contained in the received data frame,~~

transmitting, by ~~in which~~ the reading device, ~~transmits~~ a repeat command as a group of data frames responsive to the reading device receiving ~~in case there are~~ mutually colliding responses from several of the transponders, ~~which~~ the repeat command causing ~~causes~~ the transponders to retransmit their responses and the repeat command not containing the synchronization information; ~~send the response once more and~~

transmitting, by ~~in which~~ the reading device, a confirm command to each of the transponders whose response was received without errors, the confirm ~~sends a Confirm~~ command causing each of the transponders whose response was received without errors, ~~which causes this transponder~~ not to respond ~~react~~ to the repeat command and the confirm command not containing the synchronization information; and ~~commands,~~

repeating, by ~~in which~~ the reading device, ~~continues~~ transmission of confirm ~~Confirm~~ commands and repeat ~~Repeat~~ commands [[,]] until none of the transponders respond ~~responds any longer~~ within a specified time interval, ~~in which the reading device transmits the Repeat commands and / or the Confirm commands in data frames which do not contain synchronization information~~.

21. *(Original)* An anti-collision method as claimed in claim 20, in which the transponders respond to the reading device at randomly selected delays.

22. *(Original)* An anti-collision method as claimed in claim 21, in which the delay selectable by the transponder lies in a round, which has a number of time slots which are pre-defined and possibly variable by the reading device with durations, which are defined and possibly variable by the reading device.

23. *(Original)* An anti-collision method as claimed in claim 22, in which the reading device transmits nothing more than a Confirm command or a Repeat command per time slot, where a time slot is optionally early scheduled by these commands.

24. *(Previously presented)* An anti-collision method as claimed in claim 22, in which the Repeat command triggers the transponders to start a new round.

25. *(Previously presented)* An anti-collision method as claimed in claim 22, in which the reading device sends a Next Time Slot command, if no transponder responds within a time slot, where the Next-Time slot command is preferably sent in a data frame with synchronization information.

26. *(Previously presented)* An anti-collision method as claimed in claim 22, in which the anti-collision method is scheduled if no transponder responds within a round.